

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3/3

In re application of: Hartman et al.

Attorney Docket No.: CYTOP035C4

Application No.: New

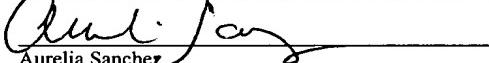
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Group: Unknown

**Title: HIGH THROUGHPUT SARCOMERIC
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I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on November 1, 2001 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number E631007597US, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.


Aurelia Sanchez**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **cancel** Claims 1-17.

Please **add** the following **new** claims:

18. A method for purifying actin comprising the steps of:
preparing a solution of G-actin; and
contacting said solution with a magnesium salt to form actin paracrystals.
19. The method of Claim 18, wherein said magnesium salt is magnesium chloride.
20. The method of Claim 19, wherein said magnesium salt is present at a concentration of at least 10 mM is used.